

EL CAPITAN

General Rules and Regulations

The following rules and regulations will be in effect for all user groups:

- Reservoir is open for fishing and general boating on Friday through Tuesday.
- Operating hours will be from sunrise to sunset. All boats must be off the water by sunset or when advised by the Reservoir Staff.
- Every person entering reservoir property must purchase a permit. Be advised that only cash and/or checks are accepted.
- Cars parked in trailer spaces may be cited.
- Because of health and safety concerns, swimming, wading, bathing and diving, etc., are absolutely prohibited (except as incidental to skiing).
- Dogs must be kept on a leash and at least 50 feet from the water at all times; **THEY ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THE BOATS.**
- **GLASS CONTAINERS ARE PROHIBITED.**
- Because of the severity of a potential fire, only gas barbecues are permitted on shoreline. Charcoal barbecues are permitted in designated areas only.
- Please do not litter! Use trash receptacles or trash bags. Secure trash in your boat before proceeding. See Reservoir Staff for trash bags.
- Report concerns, emergencies or questions to Reservoir staff.
- Remember, this is a domestic water supply reservoir. Do not contaminate it. Use toilets and avoid spills of any kind.
- Use precaution in shoreline areas, rattlesnakes and poison oak are part of the natural environment.
- Please park vehicles within marked stalls, do not obstruct the flow of traffic.
- Refueling your vessel must be done either out of the water or at the dock. A reminder that this reservoir is used for drinking water - positively no spills of any kind.
- Please keep valuables locked up. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.



Boats and Boating

All vessels must possess all required Coast Guard approved safety equipment applicable to each vessel's size and type.

- All vessels using reservoir for boating may come Friday through Tuesday.
- Beginning January 1, 2018, the mandatory boating safety education law goes into effect and will be phased in by age. If you operate any type of motorized vessel on California waterways (including powered sailboats/paddlecraft), you will be required to pass an approved boating safety examination and carry a lifetime California Boater Card. See staff for more info.
- No person under 16 years of age may solely operate a motorboat of more than 15 HP, including personal watercraft (PWC's).
- Persons 12 – 15 years of age may operate a motorboat of more than 15 HP only if supervised on board by a person at least 18 years of age.
- All boats must have one type I, II, III, or V (wearable) personal flotation device for each person on board and one type IV (throwable) in each boat. **NOTE: All PFD's must be easily and readily accessible and be in good working condition.**
- All vessels must carry a fully charged type B-1 or equivalent fire extinguisher that is readily accessible.
- All motorboats or motor vessels except open boats, using gasoline as fuel shall have at least two ventilator ducts fitted with cowls or their equivalent.
- Vessels equipped with gasoline engines, except outboards must have a Coast Guard approved backfire flame control device that has a flame tight connection.
- Fuel leaks or spills of any kind are strictly prohibited and are grounds for termination. (Remember this is a drinking water reservoir.)
- All boats must be properly muffled at all times to meet State and local noise requirements. No unmuffled or "dry stack" exhaust systems.
- Boats are prohibited from having any on-board toilets or sinks.
- The maximum speed limit is 35 mph and restricted to the skiing area.
- Maximum speed limit within 100 feet of shoreline is 5 mph.
- Passing a tow line over another boat or skier or towing a skier within 100 feet of another boat, skier or downed skier is prohibited.
- If a boat operator is faced with a potentially unsafe situation (overcrowded turn with many fallen skiers) shut down operation of vessel. The vessel on the right or the vessel you overtake has the right-of-way.
- Absolutely no bow, gunwale or transom riding. All passengers must sit securely in the boat.
- The direction of all vessels (except to pick up a fallen skier) is counterclockwise. All vessels must follow set patterns to assure smooth water and safe boating. **Boat traffic is permitted to go both directions within 100 feet of shoreline in the 5 mph areas when lake levels permit.**
- California boating law, local rules and common boating courtesy must be observed at all times.



Water-skiing

- Reservoir is open for water contact activities on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (May through October) and on Saturday only (November through April).
- Skis, wakeboards, and similar devices are permitted. Inflatable and towed devices may be used in the ski zone. Use of a quick release device is recommended.
- Minimum size PWC for towing anyone is three-person and is permitted in the ski zone only.
- All vessels towing a skier must have an observer 12 years of age or older.
- Coast Guard approved PFD's must be worn by all skiers.
- A **RED OR ORANGE SIGNAL FLAG** must be displayed when a fallen skier or ski rope is in the water.
- Starts and drop-offs must be done in deep water, no shore starts or drops.
- Skiing in or around marker buoys or within 100 feet of other vessels, skiers or hazards is strictly prohibited.
- When one skier falls during a double tow the other skier must immediately let go of the tow rope and both skiers should stay together at all times.
- Please stay out of PWC operating area; it is for personal watercraft only. For information on permits and course rules, contact one of the City Staff personnel.
- To ensure the safety and enjoyment for all patrons, there is a limit of 25 vessels with towable devices per day.



Fishing

- While on the ski course (refer to map) all boats must use proper course direction.
- Watch for downed skiers. A red or orange flag being displayed means a skier is in the water.
- Minimum speed limit on the course is 20 mph. If your craft cannot maintain 20 mph you are required to travel in the 5 mph zone around the perimeter of the reservoir.
- State of California fishing license **AND** lake fishing permit must be in possession at all times while fishing.
- It is each angler's responsibility to verify the regulations for all species prior to fishing in California water.
- No fishing is permitted within 100 feet of the boat dock or the courtesy dock.

There are no fish cleaning stations provided within the City of San Diego's Reservoir and Recreation Program.



Personal Watercraft

Since personal watercraft are classified as Class A inboard vessels, operators must follow the same rules of operation which govern all boats in any particular waterway. In addition, all local rules and regulations must be observed at all times.

- Reservoir is open for personal watercraft (PWC) in designated area on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (May through October) and Sundays only (November through April).
- PWC which carry three passengers may tow in the ski zone. No towing is allowed in the PWC zone.
- All personal watercraft (PWC) must have the following Coast Guard approved safety equipment in good working condition: All operators and passengers must wear a type I, II or III personal flotation device when operating on the lake. All operators must carry a fully charged type B-1 or equivalent fire extinguisher that is readily accessible.
- All PWC must be properly muffled at all times to meet State and local noise requirements.
- The maximum speed limit is 35 mph restricted to the PWC operating area. Maximum speed limit within 100 feet of shoreline, buoys, docks or other vessels is 5 mph.
- The general direction of all vessels is counterclockwise.
- All operators should be cautious when turning or overtaking another vessel. Looking over a shoulder before turning and taking appropriate precautions while overtaking is strongly recommended.
- All overtaking vessels must yield right-of-way to the vessel being passed.
- The required age for operating a PWC alone is 16 years of age or older. 12 – 15 years of age may operate a PWC only if accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age.
- All PWC are required to clearly display permanently affixed approved registration numbers on vessel and carry their certificate of number on board.
- California boating law, local rules and common boating courtesy must be observed at all times.
- Operators of PWC's equipped with a lanyard switch must attach the lanyard to his or her person.
- The PWC program was designed to promote safe aquatic activities. Speeding, racing, or reckless operation is strictly prohibited.

It is your responsibility to learn and observe all rules and regulations pertaining to recreational activities at this reservoir. Violators are subject to citation, eviction from premises (without refund) and restrictions from future use of the reservoir.